

# NATIONAL HONEY REPORT



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Agriculture

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Fruit and Vegetable Programs  
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Issued Monthly

Number XXIV - #3

For subscription information, please call 1-800-487-8796

Friday, April 08, 2005

## HONEY MARKET FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH, 2005

### IN VOLUMES OF 10,000 POUNDS OR GREATER UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED

Prices paid to beekeepers for extracted, unprocessed honey in major producing states by packers, handlers & other large users, cents per pound, f.o.b. or delivered nearby, containers exchanged or returned, prompt delivery & payment unless otherwise stated.

- REPORT INCLUDES BOTH NEW AND OLD CROP HONEY -

**ARKANSAS** - Soybean, light amber, 57¢ (small lot)

**CALIFORNIA** - Clover, white, 89¢

- Mixed Flowers, extra light & light amber, 65¢

- Mixed Flowers, light amber, 58¢ (small lots)

- Orange Blossom, white, \$1.00 - 1.04

Some previous contracts at \$1.30

- Orange Blossom, extra light amber, 77¢

- Orange Blossom, light amber, 69¢

- Orange Blossom, light amber, \$1.50 (small lot)

**FLORIDA** - Gallberry, extra light amber, 90¢ - \$1.05

- Gallberry, cut comb, \$1.50 (prev. contract)

- Orange Blossom, white, \$1.25

- Willow, white, 85¢ extra light (small lot)

**GEORGIA** - Gallberry, extra light amber, \$1.15  
(pre-contracted)

**IOWA** - Alfalfa, light amber, 83¢

- Clover, dark amber, 25¢

**IDAHO** - Alfalfa, light amber, 69¢ (small lot)

- Alfalfa, amber, 58 - 59¢

**MONTANA** - Buckwheat, amber, 58¢

- Clover, white, \$1.00 - 1.10

**NEBRASKA** - Alfalfa, white, \$1.05

- Alfalfa, extra light amber, 95¢

- Alfalfa, light amber, 95¢ , 92¢

- Clover, white, 95¢ - \$1.05

**NEW YORK** - Mixed Flowers, white, 99¢

- Mixed Flowers, light amber, 66¢

**NORTH DAKOTA** - Clover, white, 95¢ - \$1.05

- Clover, dark amber, 30¢

**OHIO** - Clover, white, 85¢ (small lot)

- Meltor, dark amber, 40¢ (small lot)

**OREGON** - Alfalfa, white, \$1.04

- Alfalfa, extra light amber, 89¢

- Alfalfa, light amber, 57 - 70¢

(higher price - small lot)

- Alfalfa, amber, 66 - 69¢

- Clover, white, 85¢ - \$1.03

**SOUTH DAKOTA** - Clover, white, 85¢ - \$1.00

**WASHINGTON** - Alfalfa, white, 90¢

- Wildberry, white, \$1.04

- Meltor Honey, amber, 29¢

**WISCONSIN** - Clover, white, \$1.05

Prices paid to Canadian beekeepers for unprocessed bulk honey by packers & importers in U.S. currency, f.o.b. shipping point, containers included unless otherwise stated. Duty & crossing charges extra. Cents per pound.

**PROVINCE NOT REPORTED** - Meltor Honey,  
dark amber, 38¢

Prices paid to importers for bulk honey, duty paid, containers included, cents per pound ex-dock or point of entry unless otherwise stated.

### EAST COAST - - -

**ARGENTINA** - Mixed Flowers, white, 83¢

**BRAZIL** - Mixed Flowers, extra light amber, 88¢

- Mixed Flowers, extra light amber, 91¢

**URUGUAY** - Mixed Flowers, white, 83 - 84¢

- Mixed Flowers, extra light amber, 83 - 84¢

- Mixed Flowers, light amber, 80 - 84¢

### WEST COAST - - -

**CHINA** - Mixed Flowers, white, 54 - 55¢

- Mixed Flowers, extra light amber, 55¢

**COLONY, HONEY PLANT AND MARKET CONDITIONS DURING MARCH, 2005**

**ALABAMA** ... Some beekeepers reported that their colonies wintered O.K., but others lost up to 50% due to mites, poor queen quality, and starvation. They are usually treated with Fumidil B, menthol, and mite strips, but they are generally not treating at this time. The weather has been cool to fairly mild, but extremely wet. The bees are gathering yellow and white pollen/nectar from dogwood, red maple, clover, red bud trees, peach trees and wild flowers. The tulip maple won't bloom for another week or so. Those that went into the winter strong with the greatest food storage have done the best. Loss up to 3% due to starvation has been reported. Occasional feeding done with sugar received from the state. Occasional reports of swarms but not nearly as many as this time last year. Colonies are already putting up honey.

**ARIZONA** ... Average temperatures early in the month were above normal in all parts of the state but cooled to below normal for the balance of the month. Frequent scattered precipitation fell throughout the month allowing for increased desert plant growth and bloom. Bees worked fruit and citrus bloom as well as desert plant bloom.

**ARKANSAS** ... Pollen sources are trees; elm, maple, Bradford pear, and chickweed. No nectar sources at this time. The condition of the hives remains strong. Weather in the area has been mild, warm and adequate moisture. There is no honey flow at present. The honey supply and demand remains stable.

**CALIFORNIA** --- Weather patterns continued from March to April as heavy showers covered Southern California and by the 4<sup>th</sup>, over two additional inches of rain had fallen. The second week in April was dry across the state and record warm temperatures were recorded in parts of Northern California. Salinas reported 89 degrees; Oakland 88 degrees and San Francisco 87 degrees. The dry, warm weather didn't last as .30" of rain fell in downtown Los Angeles, leaving their season-to-date (July 1, 2004 – March, 2005) at 34.81" or 266% of normal. As the month ended, the precipitation did not. On the 22<sup>nd</sup>, daily records included 1.22" in Fullerton and downtown Los Angeles got another 1.08". During the same time, 1-2' of snow fell in the Sierra Nevada Mountains.

By the middle of the month, the bloom was ending on apricots, peaches, plums, cherries and nectarine trees in the San Joaquin Valley. Further north, pears and cherries were just beginning to bloom and by the 12<sup>th</sup> were in full bloom as temperatures were above normal. A week later, apples were beginning to bloom and buds were swelling on the citrus trees. The warmer weather also increased pollination in the almonds. By the end of March, bees were being moved from the almond orchards to the citrus groves while others moved north for the fruit pollination in Washington. In some cases, beekeepers were taking their bees out of the almonds and putting them in areas where sage grows. The rains have created an excellent crop of sage this year and the honey is usually worth more than orange blossom. Others are being stacked in holding yards and fed before the vine seed crops begin to bloom. The bees are beginning to look better than they did a month ago.

Queen breeders and package producers reported sales are very good this year. The rain in California and cold weather in other areas of the country have delayed some shipments of queens and packages.

Packers are still not buying a lot of honey as sales remain fairly stagnant. Offerings from producers have also slowed. With lower prices continuing, commercial users are beginning to ask that the price they pay for bulk honey be reduced.

**COLORADO**... Much of the Colorado bees winter in the California almond groves. Reports indicate they are paid around \$80 per hive for the pollination. The pollination fees have become income the apiaries really rely on. Freight cost have gone up drastically and those pollination fees just pay for the freight costs the apiaries pay out each year. Beekeepers report their freight charges have gone up \$25,000 over a years time. Freight rates are running \$2.00-2.50 per loaded mile. Most beekeepers can haul 512 hives on a flat bed semi trailer.

The rain in California set the Colorado apiaries back this season. The fly time was reduced and the bees were not able to increase population of the hives. The bees were actually fed up to 2 gallon per hive. They indicate the almond set will be light and a lot of the blossoms fell off the trees.

From California some of the Colorado bees go into the Great Bend country of south Texas around Presidio. They have been feeding on Acacia shrub and will move into the Salt Cedar along the Rio Grande River before heading back to Colorado in about 20 days. They will go on dandelions until the alfalfa is ready along about June 25. These Texas bees are now populating and beekeepers are increasing hives. They will increase the number of hives by as much as 50-60% by the time they finish on the alfalfa in Colorado in mid September. They will then begin the cycle again as they will start hauling bees back to California.

Colorado apiaries report that on an average their hives will produce 120-130# of honey per year. Wholesale honey prices are \$1.10 per pound.

**FLORIDA** ... The citrus flow was a little this year and has been a little spotty. Areas that received extensive damage from last year's hurricanes are not producing as much nectar as in normal years. There are abundant wild flowers. The bees are building the hive strength that will be necessary to overcome the mite problems.

Gallberry and Tupelo are developing nicely and should start their nectar flows a little early this year. Watermelon growers are still looking for bees to pollinate some of the crop. Most of our pollination needs are being met. The warmer temperatures are helping the bees recover from a stressful winter.

**GEORGIA** . . . Colonies around the state were in mostly good condition. Colonies continue to be negatively affected by outbreaks of Varroa mites in all major production areas of the state. Applications of the chemical Sucrocid have helped contain the infestations but not eradicated them. Other treatments, previously successful, have met with resistance from these mites. As the month closed, some (but less than last month) colonies were still being fed with sugar or corn syrup as the nectar flow around the state remained fairly limited in March. During the month, populations continued their spring build-up and are expected to increase into April. In early March, red maple served as a source for both pollen and nectar in all major production areas of the state. In the latter part of March, spring ty-ty served as a food source in southeast Georgia, while assorted wildflowers were available in the Piedmont area and north Georgia mountains. As the month ended, clover, mustard and blueberries were becoming available as pollen and nectar sources around the state. Apple orchards were becoming a source in north Georgia. The honey flow around the state had just begun toward the end of the month. Production of honey by the colonies around the state is however being slowed by the Varroa mite infestations, which are shortening the life expectancy of the bees. March weather featured a variety of cool to warm days and cool to mild nights. Moisture conditions around the state were surplus in much of the state due to a succession of heavy rains in the latter half of the month.

**IDAHO** ... Most of the Idaho bees have been in California almond groves for most of the winter; mainly November through January. I was not the best winter situation this year because of the heavy rain in California. Reports indicate the rain was somewhat spotty, thus some areas enjoyed a good winter. However, for the most part the wet rainy conditions kept bees from flying and pollinating. Apparently, the almond set will be light, because of the lack of pollination and many blossoms fell from the trees. These bees were not able to produce any additional population, because of the lack of feed. Thus, the apiaries were not able to split any hives through the winter. Almond groves don't produce much honey volume at best, but this season was generally a disappointment. At least apiaries were happy with the \$65-\$100 per hive they were paid to pollinate the almond trees.

The heavy rain in California was somewhat of a blessing, as there has been an abundance of ground flowers available for the bees to feed on. Indications are that the bees have had good growth and keepers are able to split and grow their population after the rainy season ended. Some of the California bees are in orange groves at this time and are in a great environment to promote hive growth. Idaho apiaries have hauled some of their hives north to the apple groves in Washington State. Reports indicate apple growers are paying \$35-\$40 per hive to pollinate those trees. Beekeepers are unsure how long their bees will be in the apple groves.

They are hoping Idaho will have some good dandelion and willow blossoms to put the bees into when they finish in Washington and California. Thus keeping the bees in good condition with growth and repopulating the hives. They certainly need to increase the population as the industry has been devastated by the mite problem. Most apiaries have lost half of the bee population and several have been forced out of business from this terrible insect problem. Those in the industry indicate the approved insecticides did not protect the bees. It seems the mites have developed a resistance to some of the chemicals.

The Idaho apiaries are certainly grateful for the recent rain and snow in Idaho. The drought conditions could rake havoc with the bee colonies. The reports indicate the wholesale price for honey in around \$1.10 per pound for good quality white honey and \$.85 for dark honey. These prices could help the industry recover from the mite devastation. Especially if the peak honey producing season (June to mid-September) has enough moisture to produce good alfalfa and clover conditions. Thus, enabling the bees to increase population and produce ample amount of honey.

One thing that has really affected the bee/honey industry is the fuel costs and trucking charges. They are held at bay with little hope to do much about it. They rely heavily on trucks, as they are in a constant mode of transporting their bees from one area to the next. Apiaries report the freight from Eastern Idaho into the Fresno, California area to be as high as \$2.75 per loaded mile. That takes the profit out of the honey deal in a hurry.

**ILLINOIS** ... The month of March, temperatures were reported above normal over much of the State. In the southern region, some early wild flowers and ornamentals were in bloom while the northern region experienced cold conditions. Temperatures ranged from the mid -20's overnight to the mid-40's for daytime highs in the northern part of the State. Temperatures in the southern sections warmed to the mid -70's late in the month which were been within a few degrees of high temperature records. Soil moisture was short over the northern section while the southern section generally was ample to surplus. The honeybees were working late in the month on floral sources of dogwood, red bud, Iris, cherry and magnolia. The end of the month, the honeybees worked pollen from daffodils, crocus and hyacinth.

Honey sales and the movement of wax were reported slowly.

**INDIANA** ... The first of the month, most of the northern section reported fairly dry conditions while the southern sections reported ample to surplus rainfall and soil moisture. The end of the month, some fieldwork started particularly in the southern regions.

The main activities of beekeepers was removing winter treatment strips and preparing their hives for moving out of overwintering yards. Beekeepers checked hives for beetle and mite infestation which is expected to become a serious problem for Indiana beekeepers. The State Apiary Inspector stressed the need to inspect hives imported from other states to get a handle on the mite and beetle problem.

Bulk honey movement was slow while retail sales were good.

**KANSAS, IOWA, MISSOURI AND NEBRASKA** ... Temperatures across Kansas and Missouri were nearly two degrees below normal. The high of 76 degrees and the low of 17 degrees were recorded. Precipitation was below normal.

Kansas, Nebraska, and Iowa experienced the high of 77 degrees and the low of 16 degrees. Temperatures were about 1.5 degrees above normal. Precipitation was also below normal; an average of two inches were recorded. Much of the lower temperatures occurred during the early month.

Beekeepers were busy preparing for spring activity. Some had and were attending classes. Winter over bees experienced some loss in population due to lack of sugar source and mites, mainly tracheal. Due to above average rain in California, beekeepers are anticipating a higher market and limited supplies. Honey remained in good demand, despite a drop in prices for bulk market.

Members of the American Honey Producers met with Congressional members to voice their concerns about the dumping of Chinese Honey. They petitioned that cash duties be paid instead of posting of bonds. They also met with ARS and FDA officials, discussing mite control research, honey adulteration and Kodex Standards for honey identification.

**LOUISIANA ...** With temperatures being slightly above normal and the amount of rain fall so far this year, colonies are in good condition. Pollen sources are wild flowers, and various trees. Still waiting to see the honey flow. All conditions are good, so we hope to have a good year.

**MICHIGAN ...** Snow cover was variable statewide, ranging from rapid disappearance in the south to over half a foot in the northern regions. Warmer weather returned to most of the state by the end of the month with temperatures reaching the mid-60s, which allowed for numerous cleansing flights. Beekeepers were preparing for the spring season by restocking colonies that were lost over the winter. About 30,000-40,000 migratory colonies has been reported returning from Florida and Georgia for pollination of new crops in MI. demand for honey has remained good.

**MISSISSIPPI . . .** Colonies around the state were in generally good condition. In the central and northern portions of the state, some (but less than last month) colonies during the month were in need of additional feeding with sugar or corn syrup, or with stores of surplus honey transferred from other hives. By the end of the month, colonies around the state were sustaining themselves on gathered food. In central and northern Mississippi, red maple served as a pollen and nectar source in early March. Later in the month, spring wildflowers and fruit (peaches, pears, plums) blooms served as modest sources of food. The honey flow is expected to begin in mid-April in these areas of the state. In southern Mississippi, red maple served as a pollen and nectar source early in the month. For most of the month, spring ty-ty served as a food source. As the month ended, willow trees and several members of the holly family, including swamp gallberry and youpon, were beginning to serve as pollen and nectar sources in southern Mississippi, where the honey flow commenced in mid March. Statewide during the month, populations continued their spring build-up. Weather during March featured a variety of cool to warm days and cool to mild nights with a general warming trend. Moisture conditions were adequate in southern Mississippi and surplus in central and northern Mississippi.

**MONTANA ...** During the month of February, temperatures were above normal with limited precipitation resulting in subsoil moisture contents of 61% very short, 30% short, 9% adequate, 0% surplus. Migratory hives were being moved from California into southwestern Oregon State fruit orchards to cover commitments by months end. Hives remaining in Montana remained in winter packs.

**NEW ENGLAND ...** March's temperatures were below normal, morning temperatures ranged between 25-32 degrees with night time lows reaching the single digits and day time temperatures reaching only the mid to upper 30s with some interior regions reaching into the mid 40s. A high of 59 degrees in the interior sections and 63 degrees was reached in coastal areas on the 30<sup>th</sup>. Though precipitation was below normal for the month, a rain storm during the 28-29<sup>th</sup> deposited 2 plus inches across New England. This created wide spread flooding due to the rain and melting of the record snowfall for the season.

**NEW YORK ...** Weather has been unusually cold the first two weeks of March with snow across the state. As much as a foot of snowfall was reported. By the 3rd week of the month warmer temperatures were noted which allowed for cleansing flights for bees. Bee-keepers are busy checking on hives to see how the colonies fared over winter. Some reported that the mite treatment applied did not work and bees did not survive. The migratory bees will return from FL, GA, and SC by the end of April. Honey sales were excellent and most beekeepers were finished with the last season's crop.

**NORTH CAROLINA ...** Temperatures for the state of North Carolina ranged from the low 20's to the high 70's during the month of March. There has been some snow received in some areas, but precipitation for this month has been below normal levels. Spring is evident throughout the state. Bees have been working the pollen and nectar in the trees and some of the ground covers that are in bloom. State apiary specialists are reporting the conditions of the colonies, as coming through the winter, better than expected. However, the pest resistance continues to remain a problem. The specialists are encouraging the beekeepers to continue to check and do follow up treatments to make sure the treatments are working. The North Carolina University has been holding schools for potential new beekeepers. The school is reporting a significant increase in participation in the program.

Honey sales remain excellent for available supplies.

**NORTH AND SOUTH DAKOTA ---** In North Dakota, March was dry with temperatures near normal. Snow fell on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> but accumulations were only 3-5" was recorded. March was slightly warmer than normal in South Dakota with precipitation total below normal. On the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, Sioux Falls did receive over a foot of snow. Some areas reached a daytime high of 73 degrees. As of the 27<sup>th</sup>, South Dakota topsoil moisture sat at 32% short and 54% adequate only because of some late rain and snow that fell.

Migratory beekeepers were still in California most of the month but a few hives were taken to Washington for apple pollination. As the weather began to warm up in California the oranges and other stone fruits began to bloom, the bees started to look healthier. Some hives were also taken to the coast where a very good flow from sage is expected. The mite problem is also being controlled.

**OHIO ...** Warmer weather was reported toward the end of March with early spring reported in the southern part of the state. Temperatures were in the 50-60s range which allowed bees numerous cleansing flights, although very limited pollen collection. Beekeepers were busy with restocking hives with new queens and packaged bees. According to the state inspection officials, 15-20% of colonies were lost over the winter. Honey demand has been good.

**OKLAHOMA ...** The weather has not been very nice to the bees nor the beekeepers. Several beekeepers have lost more than usual hive count this late winter and early spring. The rain and cold weather has kept the bees inside their hives and unable to forage on any minor sources that are available. Populations are not building up like we would like and with the continued crazy weather all over the US queens, and package bees are not being available for splitting and re-queening.

Central Oklahoma: Many areas bringing in a lot of pollen from various sources some willows starting to bloom, very little surplus nectar. Considerable amount of rain and cloudy conditions mixed with a number of bright and sunny days for good flight. Bees are starting to brood up. Beekeepers starting to gear up to split hives next month. Some honey supers are being placed on hives for spring flow. Winter loss average to below average. Store sales of honey steady. Reports of low honey prices being offered causing beekeepers to consider pollination or bottling of honey next year.

**SOUTH CAROLINA ...** Colonies in the Piedmont and Central regions of the state were in good to strong condition, while the Coastal Plains reported poor conditions with the Small Hive Beetle mostly to blame. Stores have expired and feeding has been necessary across the state. Winter loss was higher than normal averaging 30% statewide with some reporting 40% to 50% loss of colonies. Most major losses were caused by Small Hive Beetle, mainly in the Coastal Plains, and the Varroa Mite. There were only a few losses across the state caused by Tracheal Mites. Spring build-up has been fairly good, but slow due to frequent rainy and wet conditions in the state for the month of March. In the Midlands and Piedmont, bees are mostly gathering pollen, but very little nectar. In the Coastal Plains bees are gathering both pollen and nectar. Floral sources vary across the state with Pear, Plum, Dandelion and Henbit in the Piedmont; Red Maple, Wild Black Cherry, Plum, Dewberries, Sweet Breath of Spring, and Wisteria in the Midland; Red Maple, Water Tupelo, Plum and Pear in the Coastal Plains. Demand for honey has been very good, but prices have been down with most receiving \$.85 to \$1.00 per pound. Sources say demand exceeds supply and the price will start to rise. As for the coming season supplies may be short due to colony loss. Most beekeepers across the state will agree that more funding for research on the Small Hive Beetle and the Varroa Mite is much needed to ensure the future for the honey produces of South Carolina.

**TEXAS ...** Warm weather and some rains have provided our area wild flowers, cat's claw, agarita, various trees and Huisache. Colonies are in good condition. Since all condition was great over the last month, we still hope for honey flow by the end of April. Supply will continue to be limited.

**UTAH...** Utah apiaries struggled this winter and it didn't matter if their bees were in California or Utah. The bees kept in Utah for the winter had more problems from mites and the Nosema disease because they couldn't get out for cleansing flights. The California bees struggled through the heavy rainfall and didn't populate very much, but they didn't have the health problems they had back home. Utah apiaries report they received \$80-\$120 per box for almond pollination.

Some bees are in the Southern California desert/farming areas enjoying the desert flowers, including Mesquite, Seven Bean, Plaverty, Tamarack or Salt Cedar and others, that are so abundant this year. They don't indicate that the honey from these plants are the best source for honey. Tamarack is rather bitter. Honey production is quite light from these flowers but at least the bees are doing well enough to populate. Many Utah bees will summer in the Southern California desert on alfalfa fields. However, beekeepers indicate honey production does not usually kick into high gear until temperatures reach near 90 degrees.

The fuel costs and trucking expense has hit the Utah apiaries hard, also. One Utah beekeeper had a rather unique trucking experience that was anything but pleasant, when a truck load of bees were turned over on the Interstate going through the middle of Las Vegas, Nevada.

Wholesale honey prices are being reported out of Utah at \$1.00-1.03 for white honey and \$.62 per pound for amber.

Reports from Utah indicate death loss from mites as high as 25-50%. There is concern over bees wintering in Utah. Hopefully, bee keepers will be disappointed as spring comes and the bees get out of the hives?

**WASHINGTON ---** The warm, dry conditions continued across the State, reducing soil moisture and below normal snowpacks in the mountains. Daily record highs on March 2<sup>nd</sup> included 59 degrees in Omak and 63 degrees in Moses Lake. From the 5<sup>th</sup> to the 11<sup>th</sup>, some areas along the Columbia River set seven consecutive days of daily-record highs ranging from 66-76 degrees. Light rains fell in parts of the State the next week but only enough to settle the dust. On the 14<sup>th</sup>, Olympia's record low and highs were recorded when they dropped to 25 degrees at night and 67 degrees during the same day. From the 20<sup>th</sup> to the end of the month, stormy conditions moved through but most of the precipitation fell on the west-side of the State. A daily record was set on the 20<sup>th</sup> when Forks, on the Westside of the state, recorded over 4" of rain. Despite the rains that finally came, many areas are still way below normal for this time of year. From October 1, 2004 to March 27, 2005, Spokane has only received 6.58" or 64% of normal.

On March 10<sup>th</sup>, the governor declared a drought emergency in the State. Some of the things the declaration does is allow farmers to apply to Ecology to use existing wells drilled during previous droughts and for new wells. The dry winter is resulting in record-low snowpack and streamflow in many parts of the state. There are fears of significant crop damage and water rationing and a heightened risk of forest fires. Many irrigators in Central Washington can only expect 34% of a normal supply of water.

Most bees were in very good condition by the end of the month. They were bringing in pollen from trees along the rivers and misc. ornamental flowers and trees. The hives were brooded up earlier than normal. Very few losses were reported from starvation or nosema. Beekeepers were waiting for the arrival of queens and packages which should arrive around the first of April. The State could have their first case of small hive beetle that many have come in on hives that were purchased in Florida and brought back here for pollination.

Migratory beekeepers were busy moving their bees out of the almonds and bringing them back to local orchards in Central and Eastern Washington. Bees were also busy gathering pollen and nectar from ornamental trees and flowers along with currants and maples. Raspberries and blueberries were also beginning to bud in Western Washington.

**WISCONSIN** ... Temperatures for the month of March were reported 4 to 5 degrees above normal, however the soil temperature remained too cold for spring growth. In the southern section, some spring activities began the last of the month as temperatures began to climb. Bees were in generally good condition and supplemental feeding was still required. Precipitation for the month was fairly low with late in the month rainfall easing dry conditions. Northern areas reported snow fall was lighter than normal. Spring planting and honeybee collection activity were waiting for warm spring like conditions. The State Apiary Inspector estimated the overwinter kill to be higher than the normal 15-25 percent range.

Honey and wax sales were slow.

### U.S. EXPORTS OF HONEY BY COUNTRY OF DESTINATION, QUANTITY & VALUE

	<u>J A N U A R Y      2 0 0 5</u>		<u>Y E A R   T O   D A T E   2 0 0 5</u>	
	QUANTITY	VALUE	QUANTITY	VALUE
	Kilograms	Dollars	Kilograms	Dollars
<b>COMB HONEY &amp; HONEY PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE ----- DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE</b>				
China, Peoples Rep. of	8,232	26,247	8,232	26,247
Japan	700	5,100	700	5,100
Kuwait	61,552	80,740	61,552	80,740
Oman	14,359	18,835	14,359	18,835
Malaysia	---	---	16,069	21,076
Pakistan	48,571	63,712	48,571	63,712
Philippines	3,041	4,802	3,041	4,802
Saudi Arabia	41,956	55,035	41,956	55,035
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>178,411</b>	<b>254,471</b>	<b>178,411</b>	<b>254,471</b>
<b>HONEY, NATURAL, NOT ELSEWHERE INDICATED OR SPECIFIED ----- DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE</b>				
Barbados	561	2,527	561	2,527
Bermuda	788	3,770	788	3,770
Canada	43,913	140,947	43,913	140,947
China, Peoples Rep. of	28,318	34,479	28,318	34,479
Hong Kong	4,663	19,640	4,663	19,640
Japan	64,620	97,840	64,620	97,840
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>142,863</b>	<b>299,203</b>	<b>142,863</b>	<b>299,203</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>321,274</b>	<b>553,674</b>	<b>321,274</b>	<b>553,674</b>

### U. S. IMPORTS OF HONEY BY COUNTRY, QUANTITY AND VALUE

	<u>J A N U A R Y      2 0 0 5</u>			<u>Y E A R   T O   D A T E   2 0 0 5</u>		
	QUANTITY	CUSTOMS	C.I.F.	QUANTITY	CUSTOMS	C.I.F.
	kilograms	VALUE	VALUE	kilograms	VALUE	VALUE
		dollars	dollars		dollars	dollars
<b>NATURAL HONEY, NOT PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE - - - WHITE</b>						
Argentina	526,638	921,352	988,730	526,638	921,352	988,730
Canada	503,661	1,034,009	1,046,730	503,661	1,034,009	1,046,730
Chile	37,368	70,164	75,709	37,368	70,164	75,709
China, Peoples Rep. of	1,709,260	1,636,800	1,934,629	1,709,260	1,636,800	1,934,629
Mexico	39,041	60,750	63,890	39,041	60,750	63,890

IMPORTS continued...

Pakistan	57,000	88,350	98,559	57,000	88,350	98,559
Romania	93,000	169,085	183,210	93,000	169,805	183,210
Russian Federation	19,045	47,803	54,990	19,045	47,803	54,990
United Kingdom	1,864	6,710	10,725	1,864	6,710	10,726

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<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>2,986,877</b>	<b>4,035,023</b>	<b>4,457,172</b>	<b>2,986,877</b>	<b>4,035,023</b>	<b>4,457,172</b>
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**NATURAL HONEY, NOT PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE - - - EXTRA LIGHT AMBER**

Argentina	136,539	233,932	241,231	136,539	233,932	241,231
Brazil	56,520	98,208	106,120	56,520	98,208	106,120
Canada	95,278	184,565	187,034	95,278	184,565	187,034
Chile	19,714	33,084	35,816	19,714	33,084	35,816
China, Peoples Rep. of	748,200	596,468	682,438	748,200	596,468	682,438
Mexico	60,487	110,547	119,662	60,487	110,547	119,662
Romania	56,280	104,360	110,325	56,280	104,360	110,325
Russian Federation	19,045	20,854	24,585	19,045	20,854	24,585
Uruguay	39,000	62,270	67,451	39,000	62,270	67,451
Vietnam	37,160	43,285	47,845	37,160	43,285	47,845

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<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>1,268,223</b>	<b>1,487,573</b>	<b>1,622,507</b>	<b>1,268,223</b>	<b>1,487,573</b>	<b>1,622,507</b>
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**NATURAL HONEY, NOT PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE - - - LIGHT AMBER**

Argentina	98,606	151,672	168,107	98,606	151,672	168,107
Brazil	643,942	912,989	1,007,897	643,942	912,989	1,007,897
Canada	38,635	51,720	53,070	38,635	51,720	53,070
China, Peoples Rep. of	479,520	293,712	367,480	479,520	293,712	367,480
Mexico	13,920	17,052	17,792	13,920	17,052	17,792
New Zealand*	8,340	14,709	14,809	8,340	14,709	14,809
Romania	18,500	36,755	39,590	18,500	36,755	39,590
Switzerland	8,066	25,164	26,664	8,066	25,164	26,664
Taiwan	1,575	4,078	4,411	1,575	4,078	4,411
Thailand	41,990	67,340	67,342	41,991	67,340	67,342
Ukraine	58,700	107,784	117,333	58,700	107,784	117,333
Uruguay	77,950	122,091	129,557	77,950	122,091	129,557
Vietnam	270,690	299,599	344,303	270,690	299,599	344,303

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<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>1,760,434</b>	<b>2,104,665</b>	<b>2,358,355</b>	<b>1,760,434</b>	<b>2,104,665</b>	<b>2,358,355</b>
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**NATURAL HONEY, NOT PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE - NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED OR INDICATED**

Canada	19,016	15,511	15,661	19,016	15,511	15,661
Italy	651	2,098	2,308	651	2,098	2,308
Mexico	743	3,861	3,904	743	3,861	3,904
Spain	4,563	23,916	25,416	4,563	23,916	25,416
Switzerland	1,760	17,690	18,083	1,760	18,690	18,083
Turkey	11,424	47,700	50,141	11,424	47,700	50,141

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<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>38,157</b>	<b>110,776</b>	<b>115,513</b>	<b>38,157</b>	<b>110,776</b>	<b>115,513</b>
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<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>6,053,691</b>	<b>7,738,037</b>	<b>8,553,691</b>	<b>6,053,691</b>	<b>7,738,037</b>	<b>8,553,547</b>
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\* Excluding Cook Islands, Niue and Tokelau

SOURCE: Department of Commerce, Foreign Trade Division